

SC BRIEFING

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7 SEPTEMBER 1955

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CYPRUS TALKS END

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The London conference on the Cyprus question has ended in complete disagreement.

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II. The immediate results of the London conference's failure are likely to be:

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- A. Further deterioration in Greek-Turkish relations, with increasingly bitter mutual recriminations and a lessening of cooperation in NATO and the Balkan alliance.
 - 1. The violent Turk outbreaks on 6 September in Istanbul and Izmir have already illustrated the sharp decline of Greek-Turkish friendship. Further manifestations may be expected.
- B. Renewed violence on Cyprus, where the influence of Nationalist extremists will be strengthened.
 - 1. Danger to US property and interests on the island from terrorist attacks may become acute.

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C. Intensive diplomatic campaigns by Greece, Turkey and Britain in preparation for a bitter Cyprus debate at the session of the UN General Assembly, starting 20 September.

III. Failure of the conference will also be a serious blow to American prestige in Greece, because the Greeks regard the US as partly responsible for the outcome,

A. With a reduction of US influence, the small but growing tendency towards neutralism in Greece can be expected to gain new strength.

IV. Finally, the failure will have a direct impact on the present Greek government.

A. Failure of the Greeks to win any real concessions will probably weaken the Rally government still further.

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B. In consequence of the K 2003/03/04 CIA-RDP79R00890A000600040030-4
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the govern-
ment at present is leaderless, may appoint a provisional prime
minister and call for new general elections.

1. The King believes that ailing Prime Minister Papagos might
now take this opportunity to resign "as a hero who has done
his best."

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